

*Attorney-Client Work Product, FOIA Exempt
Investigator's Draft*

**GREEN INDUSTRIES, INC. SUPERFUND SITE
Record of Interview**

Witness: Robin Grinstead
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Telephone: H: (513) 469-1277; W: (513) 984-6776; Voice Mail: (513) 786-6855
Interviewed By: Stacey O'Bryan, Trial Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice
Reginald Arkell, Civil Investigator, OCEFT
Date of Interview: January 9, 2001
Interview Location: Residence of Robin Grinstead

Pursuant to a memorandum dated February 19, 1999, the Office of Regional Counsel (ORC), Region 5 requested civil investigative assistance from the OCEFT Civil Investigator Team and financial analysis from NFIC in the matter of the Green Industries Corporation Superfund Site ("the Site") in Sharonville, Ohio. Approximately \$4 million was spent by U.S. EPA to remediate uncontrolled hazardous materials abandoned at the Site. Previous activity at the Site included electroplating operations from approximately 1978-1995. Operators during a portion of this time were Creutz Plating Company, Norwood Hard Chrome ("NHC") and Green Industries, Inc. ("GI"). GI eventually absorbed the other two companies. GI continued plating operations until the Site and facility was sold to H.R.W. Industries, Inc. ("HRW") in 1988. HRW changed its name to Green Industries Corporation ("GIC") and continued electroplating operations until they filed for bankruptcy in 1995. Region 5 was seeking assistance in gathering information concerning liability, verification of financial information provided and in investigating current finances of PRP's. A Report of Investigation, dated August 1999, was provided.

In December 2000, Stacey O'Bryan, Trial Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice, requested that CI Reginald Arkell accompany her to conduct additional interviews of key witnesses. Reference is made to a attached report, dated March 18, 1999, which documents a previous interview of Robin Grinstead by the CIT and other reports, dated October 24, 1996 and January 7, 1997, documenting interviews of her by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On January 9, 2001, Ms. O'Bryan and CI Arkell met with Robin Grinstead at her home. The following information was obtained.



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She recalled him bragging that the chromatic acid he put into the ground at the Site made the root beer sweeter at a nearby A&W. He had a girlfriend by the name of Linda Wolfer who used the nickname "Murph". Daniel Green was a family man who would usually go along with what Maurice Green said or did as he was very controlling. Janie is the bookkeeper at LWG, Inc. currently.

▶ Robin Grinstead said that, when she first started working at Feinblanking, Ltd., Daniel Green was working for GIC and would come over to Feinblanking, Ltd. at the end of the day. At the time, Maurice Green and Daniel Green were setting up a new plating company called LWG, Inc. They were conspiring with their old employees at GIC to get them fired so they could be hired at LWG, Inc. Although, Maurice Green was not allowed to be involved with any new company because of tax troubles he had. The Greens were very tight lipped about all aspects of their operations. Maurice Green collected a salary from LWG, Inc. which he used to make house payments to Daniel Green and Linda Wolfer. This was in addition to a regular mortgage he had with a bank. She kept records of all three payments, however, Linda Wolfer eventually took over tracking these payments. The employees the Greens took from GIC included Frank McFarland, Dale West, Ray Aeree, Ray Tenley, Jim Bowman and Dave Emo. She said many of the Green's employees were paid in cash. Company vehicles were sold at a loss to employees. Some of the aforementioned employees were made shareholders of LWG, Inc. This was listed in company meeting minutes but there were not any stock certificates and the employees never received any monetary benefits related to this.

▶ Robin Grinstead stated that other companies were started by Maurice Green and/or Daniel Green at Le Saint Drive such as LWG AU, Inc., LWG Finishing, Norwood Hard Chrome, and Omni Properties, Inc. but they were all the same company. Omni stood for Old Man something or other. She said Omni Properties, Inc. was created by Daniel Green for ownership of the LWG, Inc. property.

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Omni Properties, Inc. purchased this property for \$825,000.00. The money went to 1st National Bank. Sam Green was listed as the owner of Omni Properties, Inc. LWG, Inc. would then make rent payments to Omni Properties, Inc. This arrangement was set up when the IRS started investigating. Strong Manufacturing was another company at the Le Saint Drive location that was operated by the Strong brothers. Another unknown company created by the Greens was put under the direction of Linda Wolfer. The Greens frequently had Robin Grinstead transfer and loan money between all of the companies they created and to and from themselves. These amounts would be anywhere from \$50,000.00 to 100,000.00. Robin Grinstead said Maurice Green and Daniel Green pulled company blank checks out of numerical sequence and held them until such a time when they needed to show a loss or write checks to themselves for bonuses. Daniel Green was the one in charge of trying to make it appear that each of the companies were legitimate and had separate finances but this was bogus. She stated that, at the direction of Maurice Green and Daniel Green, she maintained two sets of accounting records for each of the aforementioned companies they set up. The Greens were just trying to make more money and confuse the IRS. She said they would laugh at the IRS and said "let them figure it out".

Robin Grinstead said that none of the corporations created by the Greens were legitimate. Maurice Green, Daniel Green and her would make up corporate meeting minutes although there were never any formal corporate or shareholders meetings. Employees were treated well to keep quiet. Robin Grinstead recalled that she got a \$2,000.00 cash bonus from Maurice Green during her first year working there. He also personally gave her \$1,000.00 for a down payment on her home about ten years ago. Employees got cash bonuses such as \$200.00 and Kroger coupons at Thanksgiving. Dave Fmo received a \$5,000.00 cash bonus once. She said payments such as these was how Maurice Green kept people under his thumb. Robin Grinstead recalled GIC suing LWG, Inc. and the Greens for violating the no-compete clause.

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The Greens went through invoices and destroyed evidence that they were competing with GIC through their new companies. Maurice Green and Daniel Green said that Bernie Harris was a problem to them. The LWG, Inc. employees working in the back would laugh about the Greens putting things over on Bernie Harris.

Robin Grinstead stated that the Greens had bank accounts at P&C Bank on 4th Street in Fairfield for LWG, Inc. and their other companies. She recalled going there frequently to have company checks cashed. She dealt with "Patty" at the bank but the amounts were frequently so high that she would interface with the bank president directly. Maurice Green always had a safe full of money at LWG, Inc. The safe disappeared after the IRS started investigating. She believed he also had money in Germany because he and his ex-wife, Delores Green, had property there. Robin Grinstead mentioned that Maurice Green also took a week long trip out of Ohio while he had been on probation requiring him to stay in state. This probation was part of his sentence for violations he was convicted of at the Site. Although, Maurice Green had told Robin Grinstead and others that he had taken the rap there for Daniel Green. She was aware that Daniel Green had traveled to Myrtle Beach on at least one occasion.

Robin Grinstead recalled how she had seen state income tax returns for Daniel Green which showed that his children each had bank accounts of over \$1 million. She said finances from LWG Finishing, Inc. and the Greens other companies were used to pay for their personal income taxes, and other miscellaneous personal expenses charged to their credit cards. These credit cards included 1st National Bank and American Express. She said Daniel Green was using his wife's name, Sandra Green, to set up Aston Development and arrange financing without her knowledge. Daniel Green loaned \$500,000.00 to this company and/or his partner there, John Rehman, via Omni Properties, Inc. and his other companies. She said Sandra Green had personal credit cards in her name which were paid for by the Greens companies.